

Sisler discloses a wider variety of substituent groups around the cyclopropene ring. These include C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl in which one or more of the carbons may be substituted with a variety of heteroatom containing groups (col. 2, line 45 to col. 3, line 3). Sisler exemplifies forty-eight cyclopropene compounds with one or two substituents selected from these groups. Efficacy data are provided for these compounds.

Both Daly and Sisler provide cyclopropenes with a variety of substitution patterns on the cyclopropene ring. However, in both cases the variety is limited and the claims in each of the cited references are also limited to relatively specific compounds. Applicants have discovered a variety of specific substituent groups which were not disclosed or exemplified by either Daly or Sisler. These specific substituent groups are contemplated by the Applicants to provide cyclopropene compounds with ethylene inhibition activity. Based upon the disclosures of Daly and Sisler, the specific substituent groups of Applicants' invention would not, to one skilled in the art, obviously provide cyclopropenes with ethylene inhibition activity. At best, it may be obvious to one skilled in the art that such substituent groups should be tried as cyclopropene substituents, to provide cyclopropenes with ethylene inhibition activity. Obvious to try is not the standard for obviousness. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

With this response, Applicants believe that the rejection and objection have been overcome and the claims are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any suggestions which may put the Application in better condition for allowance, Applicants' attorney is willing to discuss any such suggestions either by phone or at the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Respectfully submitted,

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